



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Green River District Office

170 South 500 East

Vernal, UT 84078

<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/vernal.html>

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1790

LLUTG01000

DOI-BLM-UT-G010-2009-0217-EIS

Dear Public Land User:

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Monument Butte Area Oil and Gas Development Project is hereby submitted for your review and comment. It was prepared to analyze the potential impacts of and alternatives to Newfield Exploration Company's proposed infill development scenario. The Monument Butte Project Area (MBPA) encompasses approximately 119,830 acres in an existing oil and gas producing area located on BLM land south of Myton in Duchesne and Uintah Counties, Utah.

This Draft EIS analyzes four alternatives in detail: the Proposed Action Alternative, the No Action Alternative, a Field-wide Electrification Alternative, and the Agency Preferred (Resource Protection) Alternative. Under the Proposed Action, up to 5,750 new oil and gas wells would be drilled over a period of 16 years. Additionally, approximately 243 miles of new roads and pipelines would be constructed, 21 new compressor stations would be constructed, three existing compressor stations would be expanded, one gas processing plant would be constructed, seven new water treatment and injection facilities would be built, six existing water treatment and injection facilities would be expanded, 12 gas and oil separation plants would be constructed, one freshwater collector well would be drilled, and six water pump stations would be built. Total new surface disturbance under the Proposed Action would be approximately 16,129 acres.

The Draft EIS was prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as well as other regulations and statutes, to address possible environmental and social and economic impacts that could result from implementation of the project. This Draft EIS is not a decision document. Its purpose is to inform the public and the Decision Maker of the impacts associated with implementing the proponent's drilling proposal, to evaluate alternatives to the proposal, and to solicit other agencies and the public for comments.

If you wish to submit comments on this Draft EIS, we request that you make them as specific as possible, with references to page numbers and chapters of the document. The most useful comments will contain new technical or scientific information, identify data gaps in the impact analysis, or provide technical or scientific rationale for opinions or preferences. Please refer to "Monument Butte EIS" in your correspondence. Written comments will be accepted by fax, email, or letter for 45 days following the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Please provide your comments to:

Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Stephanie Howard
Vernal Field Office
170 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078
Fax: 435-781-4410
UT_Vernal_Comments@blm.gov

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. BLM will not consider anonymous comments. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

For further information, please contact Stephanie Howard at (435) 781-4469. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to contact the above individual during normal business hours. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to leave a message or question with the above individual. You will receive a reply during normal business hours.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Stringer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Stringer" clearly distinguishable.

William Stringer
District Manager

Enclosures – As Stated